

## ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A shock absorber according to the present invention includes a pressure tube having a working chamber disposed therewithin. A piston is slidably disposed within the working chamber and divides the working chamber into an upper working chamber and a lower working chamber. An intermediate tube is disposed around the pressure tube and the working chamber to define an intermediate chamber. A reserve tube is disposed around the intermediate tube. A collar is attached to the intermediate tube. The collar is defined by a shoulder portion extending generally lateral to the intermediate tube and a radial neck portion extending generally perpendicularly to the intermediate tube. An external control valve includes a valve seat received within the collar in an installed position. The external control valve is attached to the reserve tube.